

# Editorial

Imphal, Wednesday, November 25, 2015

## Bye-election verdict and its significance

Whether it may be the 'Modi wave' or the personalities of the candidates, the BJP this time have two MLAs in the 60 member Manipur Legislative Assembly. After landslide victory in the last parliamentary election, the party had suffered major setback in Delhi and later at Bihar and even at Mizoram along with some other states. After in power at the center for nearly 2 years the much talk Modi wave had failed in these states. For a state like Manipur, whose budget is solely depended to central government, it is not surprising that the party reached its hand in the state of Manipur. Everybody knows that Khumukcham Joykishan and Thongam Bishwajit were disqualified as TMC candidates and instead of going to court, both leaves the party and join the BJP and challenged the verdict of the speaker by contesting in the bye-election. This act of the two MLAs proved their confidence and both prove that they are peoples' choice irrespective of what political party to go with. The nation know that the present political theatre is the fight between the BJP and the congress. If one has to become a successful politician then the choice should be either the BJP or the Congress. So, Mr. Joykishan and Mr. Bishwajit, who were disqualified by the Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly, have rightly chosen the political part indeed a new chapter has been open for both the candidates in their long political career. On the other hand, with many heavy weigh politicians already in the party, both the MLA will surely play effective role of opposition in the house. On the other hand the victory of both the BJP in candidates is a moral boost for the party. Hope now float to oust the congress government in the upcoming state assembly election scheduled on 2017. The victory of BJP in Thangmeiband and Thongju Bye-Election is also in one may a blessing for the people of the state. This newspaper in its earlier editorial had opined about the possible outcomes of Frame-work agreement signed between the NSCN-IM if the BJP defeats this time. Now the BJP can float in the political theatre of Manipur and there is no reason to believe that if the sensitive issue of the NSCN-IM is not handling with care the party which have the potential of coming power in the next election may be uprooted from the soil of the state. People now expect the two MLA to play crucial role not only in the state but also in the central politics.

### More state News

## CM visits Information Technology Park

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov. 25:** Hon'ble Chief Minister, Okram Obobi visited the Information Technology Park at Mantripukhi on Tuesday and inspected the facilities of the Park. Hon'ble Chief Minister was delighted to see the Park operational with 130 IT professional working around the clock. The Park with 20,000 square feet, was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister himself, on 4th July 2015 and the Park has commenced its operation since then with (4) Four IT Vendors with approximately 130 IT professionals. More IT vendors are likely to start their operation from the Park which will bring up the total strength of IT Professional to around 300-350 by March, 2016. Further, Hon'ble Chief Minister directed to utilize the old MSTC shed, in and around IT Park, for setting up a Hardware manufacturing and assembling units, importing components from neighbouring Asian Country like Taiwan, China etc. It is also worth mentioning here that, once the Trilateral agreement between India, China and Thailand is signed,

transportation of the raw material and hardware components from China to Imphal by land route will hardly take 15-20 days which on the other hand takes 40-45 days through Kolkata by sea route. Hon'ble Chief Minister concluded the inspection by encouraging the IT Entrepreneurs to create more job opportunities for the youth in the society and transforming Manipur into an IT Hub in the North East India. He also added that the Government of Manipur will render all possible support to any IT initiatives in the State.

### Wanted Sub-Editor

Imphal Times is looking for an experience sub editor with excellent writing skill in English who can read Bengali written script. Working hour is 12 noon till 3 pm. Honorarium is Rs. 3000 p.m. Preference will be given to candidate who had already work in English daily as desk editor. Age no bar, and Imphal Times have no problem with those candidates working in other newspaper at night shift.

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## National & International News

# Militants attack Army camp in Tangdhar, two injured

**PTI Srinagar, Nov. 25:** Heavily armed militants today attacked an Army camp in Tangdhar sector near the Line of Control (LoC), leaving two persons injured. The militants attacked from the rear side of the camp at 6.15 a.m., which resulted in few vehicles catching

fire, defence sources said. "Two individuals sustained injuries in the attack. Efforts are on to put out the fire," the sources said. An Army official said that the militants seem to be heavily armed as they used small fire arms and UBGLs to carry out the attack. "There was a stand off fire from

Kalsuri Ridge (in Tangdhar sector) towards an army camp this morning," the official said. There was a brief lull before the militants opened fire again, triggering off a gunbattle, which was going on till last reports came in. Tangdhar sector is close to the LoC

in Kupwara district and has been used as an infiltration route in the past. The official said it was not yet clear whether the militants were part of an infiltrating group. "That is a matter of investigation. We can comment on it only after the operation is over," he added.

## Parliament winter session to start tomorrow, Govt to focus on GST Bill

**PTI New Delhi, Nov. 25:** Winter session of Parliament beginning on Thursday is set to be stormy with Opposition parties closing ranks to target Government on issues including 'intolerance' even as the ruling dispensation, which is keen to pass the GST bill, expressed its readiness to discuss all issues. The opposition attack is set to gain momentum from next Monday when the government brings its legislative agenda on the table after a two-day special sitting to discuss Constitution and its maker B R Ambedkar on his 125th birth anniversary. The government has called an all-party meeting today. BJP parliamentary party executive and NDA constituents will meet later at the Prime Minister's residence followed by an all-party meeting called by the Speaker. Amid indications of a tough session ahead, senior ministers on Tuesday huddled to chalk out the strategy and work out floor coordination plans while parties like Congress, JDU and CPI-M made their intent clear, deciding to give notices for debate on the issue of intolerance

and attacking Government on the key reform measure of GST. NDA ministers discussed legislative proposals to be brought before consideration of both the Houses of Parliament which include three Bills relating to replacement of Ordinances, GST Bill, Real Estate Regulation Bill etc. The ministers also discussed recent incidents like Dadri killing, rationalist M M Kalburgi's killing and some other ones based on which a campaign alleging rising intolerance is on. Government is likely to take the line in Parliament that the Centre and BJP have nothing to do with these incidents and put the ball in the court of the states. Government managers are also expected to state that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already responded to the matters. The view in the government is that there was no reason for it to be defensive in these matters but at the same time it should be ready to discuss them if the Opposition insists for the same. On GST, the government's woes are far from over. CPI(M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury said yesterday that "Government has not done its homework on GST bill. It has not convened an all-party meeting, which it should have done to discuss the same. Government will be solely responsible if the bill is not cleared in the house as it has not done its homework."

The Left leader has also given a notice for a discussion on the "growing intolerance" in the country, which has been approved by Rajya Sabha Chairman "as first item for discussion. So, we will raise voices against it," he had said. Yechury had said that six Left parties, including CPI(M), would also hold protests, both inside and outside the House, on the "hate offensive" by BJP and Sangh Parivar outfits. Sources in the Congress said that in the coming session, those who may face the ire of the party may include Union Minister V K Singh over "dog" comment on the killing of two young children from a Dalit family in Haryana. On the GST issue, the party has sent a clear signal that it wanted the bill to be passed if the concerns of the party are met. Leader of Congress in Lok Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge said, "We have already given notice for discussion on intolerance and it should be admitted under Rule 193. So we will discuss about the Constitution on the 125th anniversary. Other than this, we have given another notice on the subject." "Whenever that is admitted, we will together discuss on this issue. Each of us want that there is tolerance in the country for peace and development and investment to come," he said. JD(U) has decided to raise the issue of rise in prices of pulse, edible oils and vegetables under Rule 267 of suspension of

business in the House. Party President President Sharad Yadav said that all the issues ranging from 'Ghar Wapasi', Dadri to other incidents of similar nature showing 'rise in intolerance' in the last 18-months of this government will be raised. He said that his party will give a notice to discuss 'intolerance' issue before Parliament. Yadav said on Twitter, "We will raise issues of love jihad to 'ghar vapsi' and increasing intolerance during course of discussion on commitment towards Constitution." The party is repeatedly saying that the Prime Minister should signal his intent to act against people spreading the "venom" by removing five Union ministers, who made one or the other "provocative" remarks. "The Prime Minister should remove Union Ministers Giriraj Singh, Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, Mahesh Sharma, V K Singh and Sanjiv Balyan. Only having a debate on the issue and passing a resolution is not enough. The PM should give the message that he means business by removing these ministers," JD-U general secretary KC Tyagi maintains. A total of 38 Bills, including some finance bills, are awaiting parliamentary approval. The crucial GST bill is also pending in Parliament which the government hopes to pass in the session.

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## Seminar on political movement in NE

**Concept of the seminar:** The region of Northeast India (NEI) is characterized by a pronounced ethnic, cultural, religious, and linguistic diversity. Movements witnessed in its recent past as well as in contemporary times could be categorized as reformist, reactionary, radical and revolutionary. Movement basing on primordial mobilization and ethnic nationalism had resulted to the dismemberment of Assam. Manipur came under British colonialism in 1891. Onwards from the First Women's War of 1904, Manipur witnessed movement in some form or the other every decade. Subsequent to leaving of the Indian subcontinent by the British in 1947, Manipur had a short spell of democratic government which the Government of India had abruptly sabotaged, after becoming a part of India on 15 October 1949 consequent upon signing the Merger Agreement, and its political status downgraded to a 'Part C State in India'. Since then, Manipur have experienced sustained democratic and peaceful movement for restoration of full-fledged assembly and fully responsible government. In the late sixties of the twentieth century, Manipur had witnessed the sprouting of armed self determination movements. Manipur, then, was granted statehood on 21 January 1972, just a short spell after statehood, insurgency movement started

gaining ground and Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) came into force in the whole of Manipur. The cycle of violence that followed led to the rampant human rights violation and abuses thereby engendering civil rights movement in the state. In the fog end of the 1970s, the swarming in of illegal immigrants had casted a demographic slur in the entire region of NEI that the natives in the region would soon be marginalized. At such milieu, Anti Foreign National Movement started off from Assam in 1979 was also replicated in Manipur. Manipur, in its soil, in the last decade of the passing twentieth century witnessed violent ethnic clashes. At such anxious times, the movement launched by a coalition of civil society organizations for the holistic improvement of inter-community relationships promises some hope. In the interim, ethnic ideology movements which could potentially create division and mistrust in multi-ethnic situation have also found its protagonists among some sections in every community. Against the backdrop of a perceptive threat to the territorial integrity of Manipur on account of the Govt. of India entering into a ceasefire agreement with a faction of the Naga rebel group in 1997, the state had witnessed a mass movement for protecting her territorial integrity which later grew in scale and intensity as having no parallels in its history. Alongside, there was

also an over ground movement guided by the agenda of expansionist and exclusivist ethnic homeland politics and vice versa. The Meetei religious revivalist movement started from across the border in 1930 too found its ready enthusiasts in Manipur and its legacy still enduringly continues till this day. Against such backdrop, the proposed Three-Day Seminar intends to address the following themes: *Anti Colonial Movement; Socio-Religious Reform Movement; Diaspora Movement; Statehood Movement; Anti-Foreign National Movement; Human Rights Movement; Movement for Territorial Integrity; Movement against alcoholism and substance abuse; Movement based on Identity, Language, Region and Cultural Renaissance; Insurgency Movements for secession/autonomy/ethnic homeland; Civil Society Movements for Conflict Resolution/ Peaceful Co-existence and harmony*. The Resource persons include eminent personalities from various walks of life ranging from academia, activism, journalism and those in responsible government positions. More than 50 papers will be discussed and deliberated and the proceedings will be published as books by a reputed internationally accredited publisher.